

Message Text

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TAGS: UNGA

SUBJECT: 31ST UNGA -- OUTER SPACE DRAFT RESOLUTION

1. AUSTRIA, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE, CONVENED WORKING GROUP MEETING OF OSC MEMBERS ON SEPTEMBER 27 TO CONSIDER OUTER SPACE DRAFT RESOLUTION. THE MEETING PRODUCED A DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE BASIS OF AN AUSTRIAN TEXT (SEE BELOW).

2. THE NEXT SESSION, SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 4, WILL CONSIDER TWO UNRESOLVED MATTERS. THE FIRST IS WHETHER THE SEQUENCE OF ITEMS IN PARAS 3 AND 4 ARE TO BE IDENTICAL. AT SOVIET RECOMMENDATION, PARA 3 IN DRAFT STARTS WITH REFERENCE TO PROGRESS ON DBS AND REMOTE SENSING; PARA 4 PRESENTLY STARTS WITH THE MOON TREATY AS FIRST WORK PRIORITY FOR NEXT SESSION OF LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE. WERE SEQUENCE TO BE CHANGED, AS SOME DELEGATIONS RECOMMEND, TO HAVE PARA 4 FOLLOW PATTERN OF PARA 3, THIS WOULD TEND TO PUSH FORWARD DBS AND REMOTE SENSING AS FIRST TWO ITEMS ON AGENDA OF LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE.

3. THE SECOND MATTER YET TO BE DECIDED IS THE HANDLING OF THE MOON TREATY IN PARA 4. NIGERIA AND BRAZIL HAVE URGED

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THAT PARA 4 (A) I BE EXTENDED TO HIGHLIGHT REFERENCE TO THE

MOON'S NATURAL RESOURCES. SOVIETS, AND WITH LESS INSISTENCE THE US, WISH TO MAINTAIN PRESENT PHRASEOLOGY.

4. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF OUTER SPACE
DRAFT RESOLUTION.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING ITS RESOLUTION 3388(XXX) OF 18 NOVEMBER 1975.

HAVING CONSIDERED THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL
USES OF OUTER SPACE.

REAFFIRMING THE COMMON INTEREST OF MANKIND IN FURTHERING THE
EXPLORATION AND USE OF OUTER SPACE FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES AND IN
EXTENDING TO STATES THE BENEFITS DERIVED THERE FROM AS WELL AS THE
IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THIS FIELD FOR WHICH
THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD PROVIDE A FOCAL POINT, AS EXPRESSED IN
RESOLUTION 1721 B(XVI) OF 20 DECEMBER 1961.

REAFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN
DEVELOPING THE RULE OF LAW IN THE PEACEFUL EXPLORATION AND USE OF
OUTER SPACE.

WELCOMING THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CONVENTION ON REGISTRATION
OF OBJECTS LAUNCHED INTO OUTER SPACE ON 15 SEPTEMBER 1976;

1. ENDORSES THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES
OF OUTER SPACE;

2. INVITES STATES WHICH HAVE NOT YET BECOME PARTIES TO THE
TREATY ON PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE ACTIVITIES OF STATES IN THE
EXPLORATION AND USE OF OUTER SPACE, INCLUDING THE MOON AND OTHER
CELESTIAL BODIES, THE AGREEMENT ON THE RESCUE OF ASTRONAUTS, THE
RETURN OF ASTRONAUTS AND THE RETURN OF OBJECTS LAUNCHED INTO OUTER
SPACE, THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE CAUSED
BY SPACE OBJECTS AND THE CONVENTION ON REGISTRATION OF OBJECTS
LAUNCHED INTO OUTER SPACE TO GIVE EARLY CONSIDERATION TO
RATIFYING OR ACCEDING TO THOSE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS;

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3. NOTES WITH SATISFACTION THAT THE LEGAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE HAS
A) ACHIEVED CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS BY
I) FORMULATING NINE DRAFT PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE USE BY STATES
OF ARTIFICIAL EARTH SATELLITES FOR DIRECT TELEVISION BROAD-
CASTING WITH A VIEW TO CONCLUDING AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT OR AGREE-
MENTS;

II) FORMULATING FIVE DRAFT PRINCIPLES AND IDENTIFYING THREE NEW COMMOND ELEMENTS IN THE DRAFTS SUBMITTED AND THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY MEMBER STATES RELATING TO THE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF REMOTE SENSING OF THE EARTH FROM SPACE;

B) CONTINUED ITS WORK ON THE DRAFT TREATY RELATING TO THE MOON, GIVING PRIORITY TO THE QUESTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE MOON;

C) DISCUSSED QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE DEFINITION AND/OR DELIMITATION OF OUTER SPACE AND OUTER SPACE ACTIVITIES;

4. RECOMMENDS THAT THE LEGAL SUB-COMMITTEE AT ITS SIXTEENTH SESSION:

A) CONTINUE, AS MATTERS OF HIGH PRIORITY, TO

I) CONSIDER THE DRAFT TREATY RELATING TO THE MOON;

II) CONSIDER COMPLETING THE ELABORATION OF DRAFT PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE USE BY STATES OF ARTIFICIAL EARTH SATELLITES FOR DIRECT TELEVISION BROADCASTING WITH A VIEW TO CONCLUDING AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT OR AGREEMENTS;

III) GIVE DETAILED CONSIDERATION TO THE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF REMOTE SENSING OF THE EARTH FROM SPACE, WITH THE PARTICULAR AIM OF FORMULATING DRAFT PRINCIPLES ON THE BASIS OF COMMON ELEMENTS IDENTIFIED BY IT;

B) PURSUE ITS WORK ON QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE DEFINITION AND/OR DELIMINATION OF OUTER SPACE AND OUTER SPACE ACTIVITIES IN THE REMAINING TIME AVAILABLE;

5. NOTES WITH SATISFACTION THAT THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE HAS PURSUED ITS WORK, INTER ALIA, ON:

A) THE EXAMINATION OF THE QUESTION OF REMOTE SENSING OF THE EARTH FROM SPACE, CONSIDERING IN DETAIL BOTH THE CURRENT PRE-OPERATIONAL/EXPERIMENTAL AS WELL AS A POSSIBLE FUTURE GLOBAL/OPERATIONAL PHASE OF REMOTE SENSING SYSTEM OR SYSTEMS;

B) THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON SPACE APPLICATIONS;
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C) THE QUESTION OF A POSSIBLE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON OUTER SPACE MATTERS;

6. RECOMMENDS THAT THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE CONTINUE AT ITS FOURTEENTH SESSION ITS WORK ON THE MATTERS BEFORE IT, GIVING PRIORITY TO THE THREE ITEMS CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 71 OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE;

7. ENDORSESES THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE THAT FULL UTILIZATION BE MADE BY THE COMMITTEE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THEIR EXISTING TERMS OF REFERENCE WITH REGARD TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CO-ORDINATING ROLE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE FIELD OF REMOTE SENSING;

8. FURTHER ENDORSESES THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE

THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE AT ITS FOURTEENTH SESSION:

- A) UNDERTAKE THE VARIOUS STUDIES AND REPORTS ON REMOTE SENSING FROM SPACE OF THE EARTH, AS REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH 42 OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE;
- B) PREPARE A STUDY IN DEPTH ON THE QUESTION OF CONVENING A UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SPACE MATTERS, AS REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPHS 55 AND 56 OF THAT REPORT;
- C) REQUEST MEMBER STATES TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON PROGRAMMES OR PLANS FOR GENERATION OR TRANSMISSION OF SOLAR ENERGY BY MEANS OF SPACE TECHNOLOGY, AS REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH 72 OF THAT REPORT;

9. ENDORSES THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON SPACE APPLICATIONS FOR 1977-8 REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH 46 OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE;

10. APPROVES CONTINUING SPONSORSHIP BY THE UNITED NATIONS OF THE THUMBA EQUATORIAL ROCKET LAUNCHING STATION IN INDIA AND THE CELPA MAR DEL PLATA STATION IN ARGENTINA AND EXPRESSES ITS SATISFACTION AT THE WORK BEING CARRIED OUT AT THOSE RANGES IN THE PEACEFUL AND SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION OF OUTER SPACE;

(11. REITERATES ITS REQUEST TO THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION TO PURSUE ACTIVELY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS TROPICAL CYCLONE PROJECT AND OTHER RELATED ACTION PROGRAMMES AND TO REPORT THEREON IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LUTIONS;)

11. REQUESTS THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES TO PROVIDE THE COMMITTEE WITH PROGRESS REPORTS ON THEIR WORK, INCLUDING PARTICULAR PROBLEMS IN THE FIELDS WITHIN THEIR COMPETENCE RELATING TO THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE;

12. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN THE LIGHT OF PARAGRAPH 8 OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 3388 (XXX) AND OF PARAGRAPH 73 OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE, TO CONSIDER STRENGTHENING THE OUTER SPACE AFFAIRS DIVISION;

13. REQUESTS THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE TO CONTINUE ITS WORK, AS SET OUT IN THE PRESENT AND PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND TO REPORT TO THE ASSEMBLY AT ITS THIRTYSECOND SESSION.
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